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Monitor Newsletter June 13, 1994

Bowling Green State University

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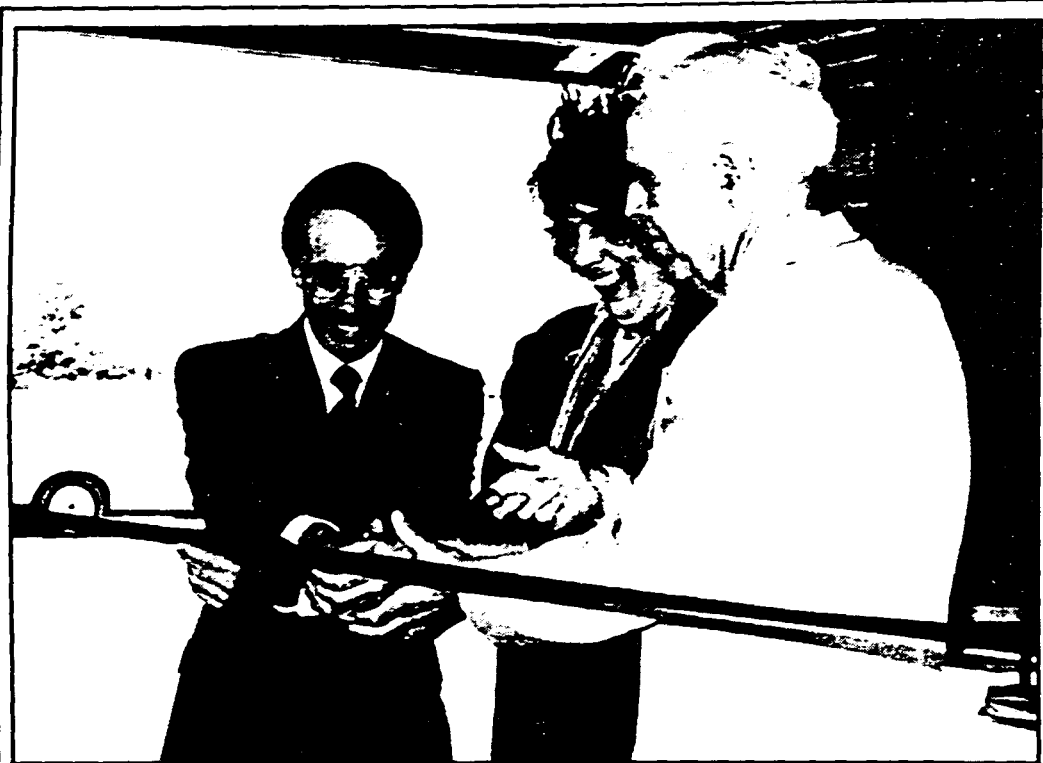
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MONITOR

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BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 13, 1994



R. Darby Williams (from left), dean of Firelands College, Mary Ann Didion, vice chair of the Firelands College Arboretum Board, and Starr Truscott, Erie MetroParks commissioner, cut the ribbon at the arboretum's new Visitors Center.

Photo by Dennis Horan

Visitors Center at arboretum is dedicated

The James H. McBride Arboretum at Firelands College continues to grow — in more ways than one.

In addition to the hundreds of trees and plants surrounding the small lakes, the arboretum now has a new Visitors Center that was officially opened in a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 15.

Lesley Ruszkowski, director of college relations, said the center is an open-sided, brick structure that will be managed by Erie MetroParks, as is the rest of the arboretum. The primary uses for the center will be to provide a covered classroom and site for community events.

Designed by the Sandusky architecture firm of Poulos & Bodde, the center was completed in May but various enhancements will be added this summer. Ruszkowski said a rendering of what the arboretum will look like in the year 2000 will be installed as well as more landscaping.

The arboretum, named after the campus's first dean, covers approximately 20 acres. Planning for the park began in 1980 with groundbreaking ceremonies taking place in 1988. Since then the arboretum has grown in phases with mounds, paths, bridges and gazebos being added.

Many of the plants and the landscaping have been contributed by Barnes Nursery in Huron, which also has provided financial support for the Visitors Center.

Ruszkowski said the arboretum board has more plans underway for the park, including a

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ASC approves interim salary guidelines

A resolution recommending that administrative staff who are asked to assume a full-time interim or acting position be guaranteed a stipend equal to at least 10 percent of their current salary was approved by Administrative Staff Council at its June 2 meeting. The meeting was the last of the current academic year and included the transfer of the gavel from Chair Greg Jordan, Student Recreation Center, to Chair-elect Pat Green, photochemical sciences.

The resolution, forwarded to ASC from its Personnel Welfare Committee, includes language that would provide for additional persons to receive a stipend should an interim/acting appointee's workload be further distributed to other individuals. It also recognizes, however, "that a point is reached at which it will be difficult to measure the amount of work that is distributed and when it will not be possible to make a fair determination of extra compensation."

The council also heard from Jordan that a request has been forwarded to President Olscamp from ASC for an additional representative to the Board of Trustees so that administrative staff concerns can be voiced at both the finance and personnel committee meetings of the board. Currently only the ASC chair attends trustee meetings.

Jordan also reported that a committee has been formed by Administrative Council to develop a uniform performance evaluation process for administrative staff by the 1995-96 year. Members appointed to that committee are Judy Donald, continuing education; Jim Corbitt, operations; Gregg DeCrane, student affairs; Rob Cunningham, affirmative action/disability resources; and Rich Zera, computer services. A representative from the University relations area has yet to be named. The committee will meet again on June 16. Jordan encouraged administrative staff to make their feelings about the merit process known to the members.

Green announced to council that the Ohio Public Employment Risk Reduction Program will

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Office offers service to help match alumni with employers

While in previous generations, professionals tended to remain at the same job virtually until retirement, today people are much more likely to change jobs several times over the course of their work lives. In response to this situation, the alumni association has added a new service for its members that Larry Weiss, University relations/alumni affairs, calls "career networking." The association has recently contracted with SkillSearch, a computer database employment placement company, to help match alumni with prospective employers.

As the economy changes and many companies are forced to "downsize," a new group of job seekers has been created. They are mainly professionals in the middle of their careers who are thinking about a change, either in anticipation of job loss or to make a "mid-career switch," said Weiss.

"Career assistance is something alumni are very interested in right now," he said. Many alumni associations around the country have signed up with one of the several new companies that have emerged to fill the growing need. SkillSearch deals only with degreed professionals from alumni associations, according to its literature. The company, which is based in

Nashville, says that more than 98 percent of its clients are currently employed. "We're not dealing so much with the recent graduate as with the experienced professional who's interested in making a change," according to Weiss.

Thus, SkillSearch is not designed to replace the placement office, which caters more to the recent graduate, or the Alumni Association's Falcon Career Connection. The Falcon Career Connection provides alumni with basic and specific career information as well as housing and job opportunities in specific geographic areas by matching volunteer alumni ("job-hunting mentors," as Cindy Oxender, alumni affairs, describes them) with those seeking information. The Falcon Career Connection has been very successful, she said. Since 1993 the connection has answered 120 inquiries and made 86 matches.

"SkillSearch merely supplements these services," said Weiss. "If we have an advertising executive who's been out of school for 20 years and needs to earn \$100,000 a year, SkillSearch might be the right place for him or her to go to look for career assistance."

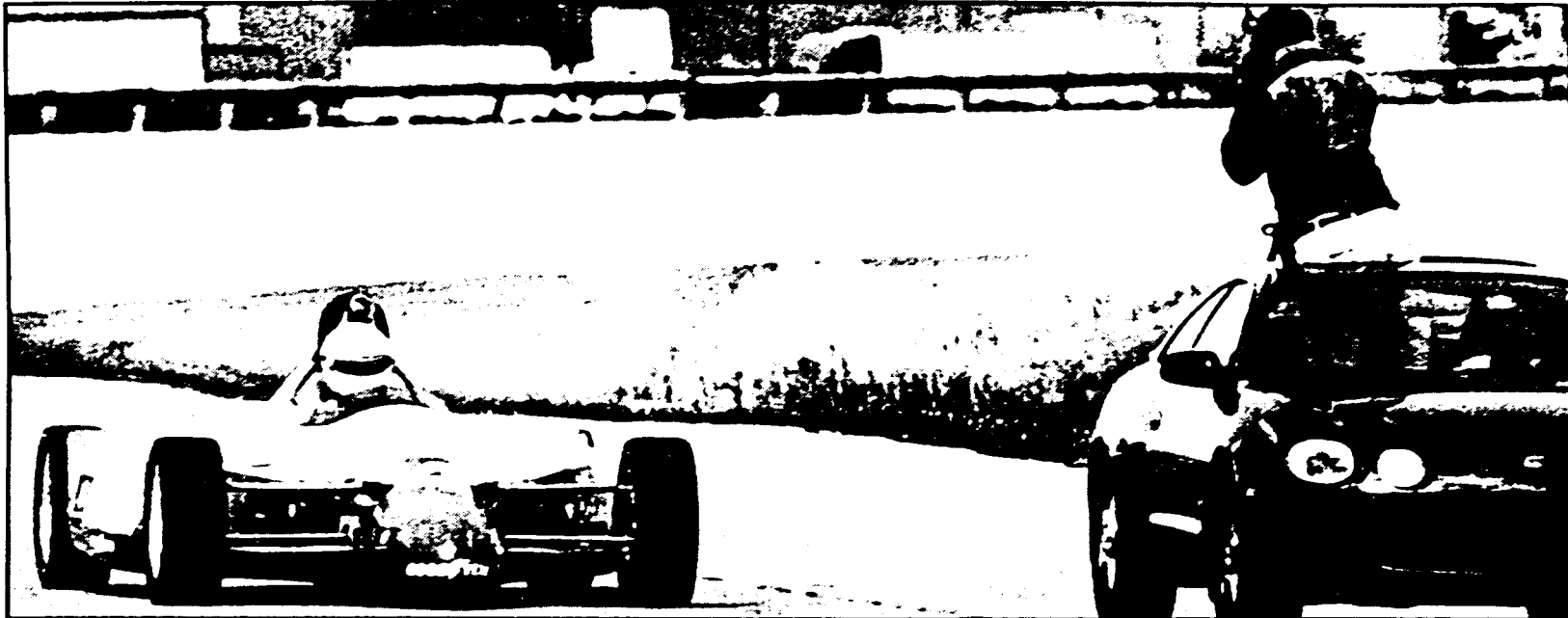
A direct mailing from SkillSearch will go out

the middle of June to alumni who have been out of school from two to 30 years. The brochure will describe the company's services and programs. Those interested may sign up for \$49 for the first year. SkillSearch will then work with them individually, giving help preparing a resume and entering the client's personal data into its computer system. Weiss said SkillSearch is very specific and seeks details about each individual that a prospective employer might find suitable. Another faction of the business deals with recruiting employees for the corporations it serves.

Membership in SkillSearch is free to the alumni association. The association also receives a commission for each alumnus who signs up and for any company it persuades to join, according to an article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Weiss said his office began seriously considering joining such an organization in 1993 after he attended a conference of the Council of Alumni Affairs Executives, a national group of 105 directors from coast to coast. While there he heard from many that their associations had

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The College of Technology's Electric Falcon race car is becoming a truly popular science. Above, Popular Science magazine's senior automotive editor Dan McCosh test drives the electric-powered racing vehicle while New York City-based photographer John Carnett takes photographs from a chase car. The pair spent a morning recently putting the car through its paces at the Dana Test Track in southern Michigan. The car is scheduled to be the subject of a feature story in the magazine this fall.

DATEBOOK

Thursday, June 16

Parking Appeals Committee Meeting, 1 p.m., Commons.

Athletic department needs volunteers

The athletic department is seeking faculty and staff who are interested in working as ticket-takers and gatekeepers at football and/or basketball games during the 1994-95 seasons. In exchange for their work, they will receive season tickets to hockey and/or basketball games.

Workers report one-half hour before the gates open, work approximately three hours per game and are always done by halftime. For more information, contact Phil Goldstein, athletics, at 372-2401. A limited number of positions is available.

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

New Vacancies

Posting expiration date for employees to apply: 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 17.

6-17-1 **Communications Technician 2**
Pay Grade 10
Computer Services

FACULTY/STAFF POSITIONS

The following faculty positions are available:

Accounting/MIS: Instructor in MIS (temporary, full-time). Contact Park Leathers (2-2767). Deadline: June 15.

Marketing: Assistant professor (probationary, full-time). Also, visiting professor. Contact James S. West (2-2041). Deadlines: July 15 and July 1, respectively.

Sociology: Assistant professor (probationary, full-time). Contact the sociology department (2-2294). Deadline: July 1.

The following administrative positions are available:

Applied Human Ecology: Clinical site coordinator, foods and nutrition (part-time). Contact personnel services (2-2227). Deadline: July 1.

Career Planning and Placement Services: Assistant director. Contact personnel services (2-2227). Deadline: June 24.

Continuing Education, International and Summer Programs: Associate director of international programs/study abroad. Contact personnel services (2-8426). Deadline: July 1. Also, assistant director, adult learner services (part-time). Contact personnel services (2-2227). Deadline: June 17.

Intercollegiate Athletics: Assistant men's basketball coach. Contact personnel services (2-2227). Deadline: June 24.

Theatre: Scene shop supervisor. Contact personnel services (2-2227). Deadline: June 15.

University Computer Services: Systems analyst. Contact personnel services (2-8426). Deadline: June 17.

Boccanfuso new director of research services

Dr. Anthony M. Boccanfuso has been named director of the Research Services Office. He replaces Chris Dunn who left the University for another position.

Boccanfuso, who will join the University July 5, is currently a public health analyst at the National Institutes of Health's Science Policy

and Analysis Branch. He also is an adjunct chemistry professor at the University of the District of Columbia.

He previously has served as the director of NIH's Office of Extramural Programs and as assistant program director of the National Science Foundation's Fellowship Office. After receiving his doctorate in chemistry from the University of South Carolina in 1988, he served as a Science Policy Fellow with the American Chemical Society.

"Dr. Boccanfuso emerged from an extremely strong field of applicants as a consensus candidate. His five years of experience at federal agencies will be a tremendous asset as he assumes a leadership role in our efforts to further the research mission of the institution," said Dr. Louis Katzner, associate vice president for research and dean of the Graduate College.

ASC

From the front

take effect July 1, granting employees the right to refuse to work under certain conditions that pose imminent danger of death or serious harm. Green said the Environmental Health and Safety Office is monitoring this program on campus.

In other business, Beverly Stearns, chair of the ASC Amendments Committee, introduced a proposed change to the bylaws which would make the ASC external and internal affairs committees standing committees of the council. The groups were formed two years ago as ad hoc committees. The proposed amendment will be voted upon at an upcoming council meeting.

Norma Stickler, chair of the Personnel Welfare Committee, reported that representatives of the personnel office, continuing education and affirmative action are working with staff at the University of Toledo and Eastern Michigan University to create a Higher Education Institute on an annual basis. Stickler said the institute would be a workshop in higher education management, offered to employees chosen from among the three universities.

In response to a question about the status of a child care center at the University, Bob Waddle, capital planning, said the University is currently attempting to finalize an agreement with WSOS to build and manage a child care center across from the Bowling Green airport. The focus of the center would be Head Start, but the University would share the facility.

ARBORETUM

From the front

winter garden and an area to recognize the college's founding members. And new planting is a continual process.

"The arboretum has really come a long way," Ruskowski said. "And the good thing is there is a lot more to come."

SKILLSEARCH

From the front

joined a career assistance program and also many good things about SkillSearch in particular. Colleagues from Duke University and New Mexico State University were especially pleased with the company's service, he said.

When Weiss returned to Bowling Green, the Alumni Board of Trustees brought in two companies to interview for possible contracts. "From their presentations, it became obvious that Bowling Green was going to feel more comfortable with SkillSearch," he said. This impression was validated when he, Tom Stellers, the new alumni board president, and Oxender traveled to Nashville to see the SkillSearch operation in person. "We came back very impressed," said Weiss.

Then the special projects committee "went over the company's references and credentials with a fine-tooth comb," said Weiss, "as we do with any service we are considering sponsoring for our members." In this case, the committee was pleased with the results. A contract with SkillSearch was recently signed and "we're in the beginning stages of our relationship with them," he said.

All mailings that the company does must first be approved by the alumni office and receive its stamp of approval, he stressed, which gives the association some control over the activities of the company, but without the cost of postage and preparation. — Bonnie Blankinship